

Pope says that narrow-souled people and narrow-necked bottles are alike, for the less they have in them the more noise they make in pouring it out.

The most egotistical of the United States, "Me.;" the most religious, "Mass.;" most Asiatic, "Ind.;" father of states, "Pa.;" most maidenly, "Miss.;" most musical, "La.;" best in time of flood, "Ark.;" most astonishing state, "O.;" most unhealthy state, "Ill.;" state to cure the sick, "Md.;" state for students, "Conn.;" state where there is no such word as fail, "Kan.;" not a state for the untidy, "Wash."

Rev. Father Anthony, of Roveredo, Italy, a Capuchin, invented and manufactured a steam motor destined to revolutionize the present method of locomotion, by which all the complicated machinery now in use is discarded and supplanted by a most simple and economical arrangement. Father Anthony went to Rome to submit his invention to the government and secure a patent.—*St. Anthony's Messenger*.

Another monk as inventor: The *Illustrazione Spaniola e Americana* relates at a French monk invented an apparatus called "geomagnetifier," by which electricity is applied to agriculture. The results obtained by actual experiments are said to surpass the most sanguine expectations, and promise great and unexpected advantages for agriculture.

The Catholic Colored Industrial School at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, won two medals and two diplomas in the World's Fair exhibit. It is under the charge of Rev. J. M. Lucey, and contains two hundred pupils.—*Kansas City Catholic*.

The latest statistics compiled by Mr.

Fournier de Faix, a French statistician, gives the number of Roman Catholics in the world as 230,866,633; Protestants, 148,237,625; Greek Catholics, 98,014,000.

The small boy learning the alphabet is very much like the postage stamp; he often gets stuck on a letter.

#### KIND WORDS FROM OUR FRIENDS.

"The *ADVOCATE* is improving greatly; it has reached the standard it ought to have, viz., it is plain, simple and energetic, so that everybody can understand it. In fact, there is only one thing wanting,—its monthly issue."

I. G., Bayfield, Mo.

"I received the January numbers yesterday, and I am happy to add that the selections are very interesting."

M. P., Ste. Marie, Ills.

"The *ADVOCATE* came to hand in good time. It is, I assure you, quite a treat to read its pages and ponder on some of the wholesome lessons that it teaches."

J. J. K., Edmond, Okla.

"You have sent me several copies of the *INDIAN ADVOCATE*, and I like it so well that I concluded to have it sent to several of my friends who have families of children. I think they will all like it."

F. H. G., Yoder, O.

"We are well pleased with the reading matter of the *ADVOCATE*. The article concerning secret societies could not have come in a better time. So many of our young Catholics here are joining secret societies, it is truly alarming; we have a branch of the C. M. B. A. here, too, and Catholics have no reason to join others. . . . There are six different secret societies here; all hold regular meetings and try their best to catch Catholics. Give us some more warning against those pests of society, . . . because our Catholics say the Church does not condemn any of them, except Masons; it is high time to do something in this matter."

A., S—, January 29.

You are right, friend, in thinking that Catholics should not join secret societies. They will be all the better Catholics and all the better Americans for staying away from such associations, even if they have not as yet been nominally condemned by the Church. The Church is slow to proceed to extreme measures of severity out of pity and tenderness for those who are already in the toils of Freemasonry, disguised under various other names. But it does not follow that any Catholic not yet a member is morally at liberty to join them. Not by any means.